



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Suzuki et al.

Title: Method and Apparatus for Polishing a Workpiece

Serial No.: 10/777,424

Filing Date: 2/12/04

Examiner: Eileen P. Morgan

Art Unit: 3723

Docket No.: K2003014

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Applicants submit herewith an Amendment. The fee for this Amendment is calculated below:

| | <u>Previously paid for</u> | <u>Total number of claims</u> | <u>New claims</u> | <u>Fee per claim</u> | <u>Total Fee</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Independent Claims | 8 | 4 | 4 | 200 | 800 |
| Total Claims | 24 | 20 | 4 | 50 | 200 |
| Total Fee: | | | | | 1000 |

Applicants submit herewith a check for \$1000. The Commissioner is requested to deduct any other required sums, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account 500794.

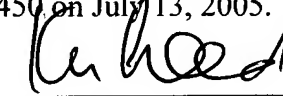
Respectfully submitted,

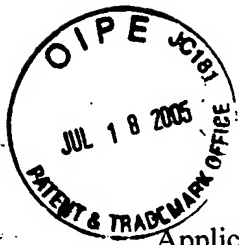

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 13, 2005.

July 13, 2005

Date


Signature



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AMENDMENT

In response to the Office Action dated June 10, 2005, please amend the claims as set forth in attached Exhibit A.

Please amend Application ¶0004 as set forth in Exhibit B.

REMARKS

I. Claims 1-4 and 9-11 Distinguish Over Stroupe.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 and 9-11 as anticipated by Stroupe. The Office Action states: "Stroupe discloses a wafer polisher with a workpiece carrier having a ring (40) rotatable within an opening of the carrier and having a discontinuity (48) therein." Office Action, page 2. Applicants traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 recites: "A ring movably placed within said at least one opening, said ring having a discontinuity therein." Stroupe structure 48 is not a discontinuity. Rather, Stroupe states: "Wafer carrier ring internal periphery 46 includes a portion 48 which is sized and shaped to mate with the particular orientation edge discontinuity shape of the wafer." Col. 4, lines 27-30. In other words, structure 48 is a portion ring 40 that extends

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